

The Brethren Evangelist,

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Editorial.

LOYALTY to your own church does not mean that you should condemn those who are not members of your church.

THE needs of humanity are the same to-day as they were two thousand years ago. The world needs a *Savior*, because it cannot save itself.

It is not very difficult to be "good" on the Sabbath day while at Church, surrounded with wholesome influences. But when we go out into the world to meet the realities of life, that is quite another thing.

To those who are too poor to afford the paper at \$1.50 it is offered at \$1.00 per year. No brother, however, who chews and smokes tobacco should consider himself too poor to pay the regular price of the paper.

WHEN the Apostle Paul was brought under conviction, he cried out, "Lord what wilt thou have me to do?" Here is the first evidence of a penitent, changed heart. No longer Paul's will, but the Lord's will, be done. An entire surrender of our will to the Lord, is demanded of those who would be followers of Christ.

THE *Midland*, a Presbyterian publication, thinks that "if every member of the church were only in the pulpit for a few weeks, he would have more sympathy for his pastor. If every pastor were in the pew for a time he would be a better pastor and a better preacher and a better friend of his neighbors." Perhaps such an exchange would prove mutually beneficial.

WE often hear it remarked that religion and politics should be kept separate. Why so? A religion that cannot be carried into politics, that is, the affairs of state, is worthless. Christianity is an every day religion. We need it in the shop, the office, the school, on the street, on the farm, in the store and in the home, no less than in the house of God.

WE are entirely out of quarterlies for the first quarter of 1896. We printed the same number as were printed for the first quarter of 1895. Then we had 1500 copies left; this quarter we should have had at least 300 more copies. It is with pleasure that we note the growth of our schools, and that so many more keep open during the winter months.

It is recorded of Philip, the Lord's servant, that he began at this same Scripture and preached unto him Jesus. Preaching Jesus means a great deal. Among other things it means preaching *baptism*, for as Philip was preaching unto him Jesus, the eunuch said, "See, here is water, what doth hinder me from being baptized?" It was water baptism, too, for both Philip and the eunuch went down, not *near* to, but *into*, the water.

FOR A CHANGE.

A certain brother who has been a subscriber and reader of the EVANGELIST, orders us to discontinue his paper and adds, "I will try the *Christian Herald* for a change." Now we are quite anxious to have all our old subscribers renew their subscriptions to the paper and secure, as many new subscribers for us as possible. However we cannot *compel* our readers to renew, neither indeed would we if we could. We have been trying, and shall continue trying, to *persuade* all members of the Brethren Church to read their own paper, first, by showing them their duty to support the official organ of the church, and second, by making the paper *worthy* of their *support*. These two are our only legitimate means to secure subscribers, and when these fail to persuade, then we can do no more.

As a rule, when people order their paper discontinued, they give some reason for it. In this case the reason given is, "I will try the *Christian Herald* for a change." Now if the EVANGELIST were a secular paper, such an excuse could be accepted. There can be no objection to a change from one paper to another, when both are secular papers. It is very seldom, however, that a democrat subscribes for a republican paper, or a republican for a democratic paper. He wants to read the paper that supports his own views so far as concerns his politics. Should not a member of the church be as much interested in the support of the doctrine of his own church, as a politician is interested in the principles of his own party?

To change from your own church paper

to one which represents no particular church or doctrine, simply "for a change," does not seem to us to be very good policy. What would be the matter with changing from immersion to sprinkling, "for a change," or if a "change" from the EVANGELIST to the *Christian Herald* is desirable, how would a "change" from the Brethren church to the Presbyterian church do? It is to be hoped, however, that the fascinations for a "change" will not be so strong as to result in the latter. The *Christian Herald* is Dr. Talmage's paper, and if the EVANGELIST would run the same amount of advertising matter as the *Herald* does, there would be strong protests. Brethren stand by your church and all its institutions, especially its publishing interests. There is no harm in reading the *Herald*, but if a brother can afford to read but one paper, it should be the EVANGELIST.

WHY IS IT SO?

Within the last few months we have received numerous calls for help in the way of pastors and evangelists. We are always ready and willing to help our brethren whenever possible, but it is not always within our power to do so. We can give the location of nearly all the ministers in the Brethren church, especially those in active service, and also give some idea as to whether their services could be secured or not. The particular matter to which we wish to call attention is the way in which these calls come in. There are certain modifications or limitations to them. One brother asks us to send him a *No. 1* evangelist, a *first class* man, one who will "set the community on fire with the love of God." Another asks us to help their people to a *good* pastor, one who preaches the Gospel-alone doctrine. One who *lives* as he preaches, a man with a good character. Now, we are not so familiar with these different traits in our ministers, but of this one thing we can assure our people: The ministers in the Brethren church, as a body, are as safe so far as concerns character, and standing as those of any other church or denomination. The fact that here and there one creeps in who is a wolf in sheep's clothing, and who makes havoc of churches, should not throw suspicion on ninety-nine one hundredth of the others who are sound in the faith, preach the word, whose character is above reproach, and standing unquestioned. Let us be charitable, and look at these things from a reasonable standpoint.